



PATENT
0510-1036

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Noel GABARD

Confirmation No. 1648

Serial No. 10/018,183

GROUP 3677

Filed December 18, 2001

Examiner K. Mitchell

DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TREATING THE
SOIL BY AERATION WITH WASTE STORAGE

RECEIVED
FEB 27 2004

AMENDMENT

GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 23, 2004

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action of November 21, 2003,
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this
paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing
of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this
paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

An **Appendix** is attached which follows the signature
page of this amendment.

as the cores would immediately fall back through the endless through openings of such conveyor belt.

The Primary Examiner had kindly indicated that claims 3, 4, 8, and 19-20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form so as to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In addition, the Primary Examiner's indication of allowability with respect to claims 5, 9 and 11-16 is sincerely appreciated. However, in view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance on the basis of new claims 22-45 are accordingly earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Please charge the fee of \$27 for the three extra dependent claims added herewith to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.